

SEP 20 2006

characterization corresponds to a control block having bits that specify the action of a control bit in a data unit.

Regarding Tanaka *et al.*, the examiner refers to control bits C having a specified sampling rate "action" during the reading of data. The examiner's own description of Tanaka *et al.* is inconsistent with what is claimed. That is, nothing in the examiner's description indicates that the "action" of the control bits is determined by a separate control block. The examiner further cites Tanaka *et al.*, column 9, line 35, to column 10, line 55. The cited text describes control bits describing the number of tracks, encoding scheme, and type of modulation. Nothing in the cited text teaches or suggests that the action of those control bits is determined by a separate control block.

Regarding claims 2, 4, and 6, the examiner cites Tanaka *et al.*, fig. 2B. Figure 2B illustrates the bits discussed in column 9, line 35, to column 10, line 55, and applicant's remarks above apply to claims 2, 4, and 6 as dependent on claims 1, 3, and 5.

This application is considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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